

Application No. 10/692,970

REMARKS

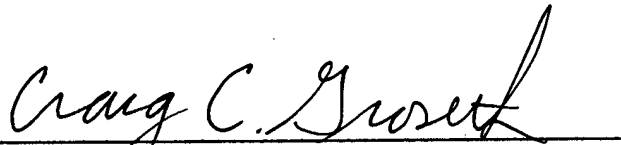
In the pending Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 9-16 and 25-38, and allowed Claims 1-8 and 17-24. The Examiner omitted a specific reference to Claim 39, which depended on rejected Claim 33.

By this Amendment and Response, and without agreeing or acquiescing to the Examiner's rationale or conclusions as to the rejected claims, Applicants have cancelled the rejected Claims 9-16 and 25-38, as well as Claim 39. Allowed Claims 1-8 and 17-24 are pending.

Based upon the foregoing, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and such disposition is respectfully requested. In the event that a telephone conversation would further prosecution and/or expedite issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____



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